

THE COUNTY PAPER.
DAVENPORT & DORRIS.
OREGON, MO.

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All letters should be addressed to THE COUNTY PAPER, OREGON, MO.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1881.



EDITORIAL.
If a man had put \$10,000 into Western Union stock when the company was organized and left it lying there untouched and untraded for, his investment would now be worth \$481,700, and the cash dividends would have amounted to as much more in the interval.

A cable dispatch announces the postponement of the publication of the revised version of the New Testament by the English universities from February until May. This makes necessary a further postponement of Prof. Fisher's article for Scribner's Magazine on the new revision.

COLONEL JEROME BONAPARTE and his wife are now living in Washington, and entertaining a great deal. Mrs. Bonaparte—a granddaughter of Daniel Bonaparte—is a clever and charming woman. She dresses magnificently, and often wears beautiful jewels, a large share of which descended to her from the late Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte.

GEORGE JONES, of the New York Times, has issued a printed notice to subscribers of the Gen. Grant fund, announcing that the entire amount of \$250,000 had been raised. Messrs. Mackay, of California, Jay Gould and William H. Vanderbilt each subscribed \$25,000, and Sidney Dillon \$10,000.

THE richest man in the United States Senate is said to be Mr. Fair, of Nevada. Of the others, Mr. Hale, as the inheritor of Mr. Chandler's fortune, is one of the wealthiest. Messrs. Miller, of California, Mahone, of Virginia, and Sawyer, of Wisconsin, are more than millionaires. There are many other rich men in that body.

THE Philadelphia Times thinks that "General Garfield has a much tougher job of harmonizing than Artemus Ward when he undertook to moralize his animals. He found the greatest trouble to make his 'amorous little cuss' of a bear live with amity in the cage of a disreputable lion, whose bent was for roaring and dining from the joints of his less bulky neighbors." The Times, however, should take comfort in the fact that, while there may be a little acrimony in the family of happy animals, the Democratic mule looks on, and is as peaceful as a sheep.

INCREASED WAGES. Certainly provision should be made as early as possible, at all the school meetings, to increase the wages of the teachers in the public schools.

Wages went down during the "hard times," and the good work of instruction went on without interruption.

Now that crops bring good prices, and all the necessities of life have been advanced, it is but justice to an unpaid and overworked class of faithful public servants, to put the wages up to something more than a living.

THE Jefferson City State-Journal condenses a great deal of sound sense in the following remarks addressed to the members of the Legislature:

"The sooner the committee of the Legislature on Constitutional amendments report upon the proposition for a prohibitory liquor law, and allow the respective bodies a chance to 'sit down upon it,' the better it will be for public interest. Look at it. We have been at great labor and pains to gather up and publish information respecting the inducements the State offers to wine growing; we have induced people to come here from the old world and invest in the production of wine and beer and we are continuing so to do. Attracted by the glowing picture presented by the 'Missouri Hand Book' to procure to expend thousands of dollars to erect a state, and repelled from Kansas by her unfriendly legislation, a great many people are turning to Missouri as an inviting field in which to find homes and employment, many in the culture of the grape and the production of wine. No longer ago than Saturday last we received a letter from reliable parties in Kansas inquiring for a large body of land for a German colony. What else than a recent attempt at oppressive summary laws is turning a German colony back from Kansas? Missouri is

a wine producing and beer manufacturing State, and to entertain the thought even of throttling these industries, is unreasoning folly. No time should be wasted in its discussion even. We do not deny the bad result of intemperance. But prohibition neither prevents drunkenness nor reforms drunkards. The inordinate appetites of men are not restrained by arbitrary exactions or prohibitory enactments. It is the moral sentiment of a community that is most potent in accomplishing reforms or imposing restraints on the vicious habits of men. What that won't effect is useless to attempt. Let the Legislature act promptly; then and withdraw from giving its countenance to the wild speculations of blind and bigoted agitators.

THE wise old boy who is President of Harvard expresses his fears that the delicacy of womanhood will suffer if the sex enters the arena and contests for a thorough education. He says: "The ke a attraction of intellectual life will quite unfit her for occupying that safe, sweet corner which has been assigned as her legitimate place." The Boston Traveler, commenting upon the position of Harvard's President, says: "There are just now so many other corners in the world for a woman to occupy, and so many women have read their title clear to them, that the traditional nine points of possession quite amounts to full inheritance." There is no mistaking the fact that college doors have got to swing wide open to girls, as to boys. It is only a question of time.

PLANT LIFE.
If all that Mr. Darwin claims for plants in his new volume on their movements be substantiated, we shall be compelled to treat them as humble relations or be dead to all the instincts of humanity. There is a story that two Buddhists once started on a journey to their master. When nearly dead with thirst they reached a stream, but so many little insects floated on it that in drinking the water one must surely swallow some of them. This was contrary to the Buddhist sense of right, for it would destroy the insects' life. One of the pilgrims concluded, however, that as it was necessary for him to reach Buddha, the insects had better die than himself, so he drank. The other, faithful to his principles, perished of thirst. When, however, the drinker got to his journey's end, he found the glorified spirit of his own conscientious companion seated in honor by Buddha, while for his wrongdoing he was sentenced to a lower state of being for a long period. Now, as according to Mr. Darwin, plants have about as much of animal life as insects, and unless we repudiate Buddhist tenets, the plants are our living companions. They sleep; change their form to avoid the glare of sunlight; move at fixed periods, and curl up, as if in joy, whenever anything is for food is placed near them. They are always in motion, and seem to know how to take care of themselves. Those leaves which are fastened into artificial positions freeze much more early than those which are permitted to retain their ordinary place. Actual experiment has convinced the philosopher that the nervous system of plants and animals is much more nearly alike than has heretofore been supposed. There are stories of bleeding thorns, and some of the inmates of Dante's Inferno were turned into trees. It almost looks as if modern science were investing the vegetable world with attributes akin to the creations of fables.

THE leaders of the Democratic party in Washington beaten, overthrown, demoralized, disgruntled, and despairing, seeing no hope for the future in their present condition, like drowning men are catching at straws, and are now canvassing the advantages of a coalition with the Greenbackers, in which they will drop their party name and the Greenbacker will make the platform, and this platform, which will be based upon hatred of the National banks, will have for its issue the repeal of the National Bank law, the substitution of flat scrip for National Bank notes, and the re-establishment of wildcat banks of issue in all the States. The absurdity of this movement and the desperation of the persons proposing it are clearly apparent. All the more so because this coalition has been tried in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, and in each instance decent Democrats were disgusted and driven into the Republican party, and the union was shattered by irretrievable disaster in each case. No such re-union is in full and successful operation and that the times are prosperous, any further coalition of this sort will only entail still greater disasters. The part of prudence for the Democrats to pursue is to remain in a desperate minority until the Republicans commit one blunder which will bring them to the surface again.

Mrs. POLK, the widow of the ex-President, is nearly eighty years old, and still retains something of her early charms. She is fond of literature, and greatly interested in the history of the day. She lives quietly at Nashville with a favorite niece for a companion. She is so highly esteemed in Tennessee that through all the financial vicissitudes of the State the interest on her \$10,000 worth of bonds has always been promptly paid with no demand.

ABOUT \$10,000 went to the Dead Letter office in misdirected envelopes in 1880. On an average one letter in 290 is misdirected.

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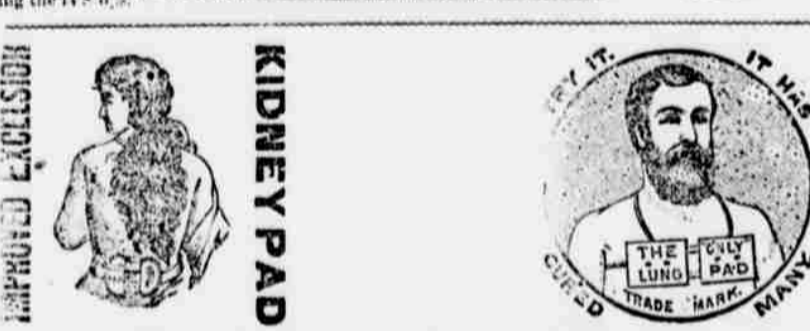
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